University of Worcester

# Report on the excavations, field walking and level 1 finds assessment at Oldbury Farm, Worcester

Worcester, March 8 and 15, 2016, March 7 and 14, 2017


(Photo Hedge 2016)

SITE CODE: OY2016/17

NGR: SO 827 554

March 2021

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Acknowledgements

Funding for this project was through the University of Worcester, School of Science and the Environment, Department of Archaeology and Geography, BA in Archaeology and Heritage.

Support and access to the land was granted through the Facilities Department, the University of Worcester, in particular, Mark Hughes. Additional thanks to Jo Brigdale, James Atkins and Tom Elliot for supporting the activities and the students, and thanks to the Institute of Science and the Environment, Academic Support Unit, for organizing transport. Thanks to Worcester Archives and Archaeological Services staff member Rob Hedge for help with flint identification.

Thanks to the students of ARCH1101, Introduction to Archaeology, class of 2015-2016, Joy Banyard, Sean Brice, Liam Brice-Bateman, Joanne Busby, Philip Clarkson, Rachael Claydon, Cola Conneely, Johnny Cusdin, Michael Dean, Amelia Dennington, William Harwood, Fern Jackson, Katherine Jones, Samantha Lynch, Ian Mackey, Shannon Martin, Louise May, Jake Minton, Matthew Neilson, Luke Norbury, Tara O'Donovan, Tom Olliffe, Louis Palmer, Robert Parker, Helen Penfold, Darren Richardson, Skye Riley, Lottie Rogers, Ryan Saunders, Abbie Selby, Kate Skidmore, Rachel Sycamore, Antonio Zonta and class of 2016-2017, Molly Bigwood, Beth Constable, Phil Cox, Trevor Evans, Beth Fogg, Liam Gee, Helen George, Jamie Gibbons, Harvey Goodman-King, Jay Hall, Andrew Kelley, Alistair MacAskill, Natalie MacKitterick, Esther Mills, Rhian Myers, Harry New, Leah Prior, Joseph Raithby, Lauren Redmond, Josh Retter, Mark Rowley, Karolina Syczuk, Adam Tongue, Molly Tuft, Kelly Walker, for their time and effort on the excavation, post excavation processing and analysis, and in helping to prepare this report.

Abstract

Archaeology and Forensic Science students of the School of Science and the Environment, at the University of Worcester conducted archaeological investigations at Oldbury Farm, SO 827 554, on March 8 and 15, 2016 and March 7 and 14, 2017. In 2016 systematic fieldwalking and artefact pickup produced over 2000 finds; dates of the finds spanned the Middle Palaeolithic, late Neolithic/Bronze Age, Iron Age/Roman periods, Mediaeval, Post-Mediaeval, Modern and 20th century.

In 2017 test pits were placed in an area in which Middle Palaeolithic and Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flints as well as fire cracked rock were recovered. Excavation and further surface pick-up identified an area of fire cracked rock which coincides with an area of ferrous dipolar anomalies revealed by a gradiometer survey conducted by CsMg associates (Thomas 2016). These results suggest the presence of prehistoric activity, which invites further investigation.

Analysis of the distribution of late post-medieval and modern artefacts revealed potential differences in disposal behaviour over time. Episodes of domestic rubbish deposition identified appear to be related to historic field boundaries and variable access to fields. Industrial waste from porcelain production appears to represent separate disposal episodes, unrelated to domestic dumping.

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## Introduction

This report will discuss the results from two field work seasons conducted by staff and students from the BA in Archaeology and Heritage, in the School of Science and the Environment, at the University of Worcester, as part of the first-year module ARCH 1101 'Introduction to Archaeology'. Fieldwork was conducted at Oldbury Farm, SO 827 554, recently purchased by the University of Worcester (Figure 1). Fieldwalking was carried out in 2016 (Figure 2), and excavation in 2017 (Figure 6).

The fieldwork was directed by the module leaders Dr Andrew Hoaen and Dr Helen Loney, and students were supervised by James Atkins, Jo Brigdale and Tom Elliott. The fieldwork was conducted on March 8 and 15, 2016 and March 7 and 14, 2017. The field survey was conducted following Archaeological guidelines published by Historic England 2013 and Worcester City Council (2016). Finds and archive will be deposited according to the Worcester City Council Archaeological Guidelines.

The research was developed and conducted following the Archaeology of the West Midlands: a framework for research (Watt 2011) and the Worcester Urban Archaeological Strategy (Barker et al 2007). In particular, fieldwork considered and contributed specifically to the following items of the strategy agendas. For the lower and middle Palaeolithic, we were able to contribute to the West Midlands Framework research theme 1, enhancing 'the date and character of the earliest human occupation of Britain (Watt 2011, pg. 13).' In regards to most other periods apart from the post-medieval, we contribute to enhancing existing knowledge, including the identification of potential local settlements in the prehistoric and Roman periods.

Our main focus has been on understanding and enhancing our archaeological knowledge of the post-medieval through to modern/contemporary periods. This is a relatively understudied period of time, archaeologically, though it can produce the largest quantities of finds in some contexts (Belford 2011). Belford has identified a number of priorities, including Capitalism, Industrialization, and Consumption (2011: 229). This research has as its primary aim to archaeologically study the industrial discard of the Worcester Royal Porcelain industry, as an avenue to documenting labour organization, identity, consumption patterns and the organization of industrial waste disposal (Belford 2011: 229-230).

Of more local relevance, we have contributed directly to the Worcester Urban Archaeological Strategy in the following areas which are different from or an enhancement of the West Midlands Framework document. The Roman nature of the St. John's side of the river Severn is poorly understood, though the potential as evidenced by the site at Grimley must remain high (Jackson 1991; Fagan 1992). Our discovery of Roman material contributes to RP3.30 'Documenting the extents of Roman Worcester, RP3.31 'The Hinterland of Roman Worcester' (Barker et al 2007: 22), and RP7.19 'Identification and excavation of domestic deposits' (Barker et al 2007: 104).

Our research into the industrial activities of the Worcester Porcelain industry contributes to RP6.8, RP6.9 and RP6.10 the investigation of the Warmstry House and other pottery, tobacco pipe and other ceramic manufacturing sites (Barker et al 2007: 89). The study of the deposition of both the industrial materials and the post-medieval domestic materials contributes to RP6.20 Industrial and land-use patterns associated with the canal and railway (Barker et al 2007: 90). Finally, this research contributes to the 'shopping list' of priorities for the archaeology of the modern period, including

characterizing changes in domestic waste disposal and the development of industrial production and practice (Barker et al 2007, 94-95).

Site Location and Geology

The superficial geology of the area around Oldbury Farm is formed of Holt Heath Sands and Gravels, dating to the Wolstonian II, or the Middle Pleistocene, overlying Mudstones of Triassic date (British Geological Survey 2016).

Land Use

The site is surrounded by arable fields, now fallow, running alongside Oldbury Road. The area around Oldbury Farm is characterized as capable of supporting arable and horticulture. Historic and Ordnance Survey maps indicate that this area has been under cultivation since the 18th century (summarised in Bourn et al. 2008), and the site is located near the medieval farms of Temple Laugherne (WSM303818), Earls Court (WSM00471), the medieval settlement of Dines Green (WCM99695) and the set of rabbit warrens (Coneygee Farm, WCM91157) at Henwick Grove (WAAS 2016). In the immediate vicinity, there is some recorded evidence of Post-Medieval activity, including Ambrose Farm (WCM98202) to the east and its associated mill, the iron crushing mill at Henwick Mill (WSM07889), as well as a number of installations relating to World War II (Bourn et al. 2008).

History, Archaeology and Previous Research

The history of the area around Oldbury Farm until World War I is that of farming, with little evidence of suburban expansion until the Dines Green development in the 1950s. The immediate area under investigation fell between two main estates, the Temple Laugherne estate in Lower Broadheath and the Earls Court estate to the south, near Bromyard Road, St. John's. Archaeological Desk Based Surveys published in 2008 and 2016 indicated a lack of archaeological potential in the area planned for later development between Oldbury and Ambrose farms, noting particularly the absence of any prehistoric, Roman or Medieval materials or monuments (Bourn et al. 2008; Thomas 2016), though both noted a full range of sites in the wider area (between 1 and 5km).

Since Bourn et al. (2008), evidence of all periods of archaeological activity have been recovered from the fields at Oldbury Farm and in the wider area, consisting mostly of isolated finds, but including a possibly Middle Palaeolithic/late Acheulean hand axe (Pastscape id. 116118), a small number of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint tools (Pastscape id. 116250), some Roman Slag along the Laugherne Brook, nearer Martley Road (Pastscape id. 116101) and medieval fish ponds associated with Earl's Court (WAAS 2016).

In September 2016 an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment was produced for the University of Worcester prior to the development of Oldbury Farm. Geophysical prospection of the site, using magnetometry, revealed sparse evidence of archaeological activity (Thomas 2016), though further discussion will be made below.

In summary, the study area whilst having little previous published archaeological evidence of settlement activity may have archaeological potential based on its location within an established

agricultural landscape, dating back to the Roman and Medieval Periods, as well as its geological situation, on an identified Pleistocene terrace.

Objectives

The aim of this research was to introduce undergraduate Archaeology and Forensic Science students to archaeological fieldwork through conducting a variety of data collection methods, including field walking, systematic field collection and test pitting. The objective was to continue adding to the database for the Worcester Porcelain project, as well as to record any other evidence of prehistoric and historic land use and occupation that may be present. The Worcester Porcelain project is examining the record of use, consumption and discard of pottery during the post medieval and modern periods in the environs of Worcester. The 2016 season's objectives were to collect, record, and process all finds, regardless of age. This strategy led to the discovery of a number of middle Palaeolithic flints, amongst other finds.

The 2017 season's objective was to investigate through test pitting one portion of the field which corresponded to the area of the discovery of the middle Palaeolithic 'mini-hand axe'.

**Fieldwalking in 2016**

Methods

Fieldwalking was conducted with two teams of students, supervised on March 8 by Helen Loney, module tutor, and Jo Brigdale, technical support, and on March 15 by James Atkins technical support.

Because of time constraints (the sessions were timetabled from 9.45 am to 1.00 pm) and the large amount of material recovered rather than aim for close spatial control the survey compromised by using a transect system based on Mediterranean survey techniques (Barker 1995). The area surveyed was divided into blocks, which were laid out with ranging rods. Each block was subdivided into sweeps within which students walked transects from one end of a sweep to another (Figure 2). Each student was allotted a place in the team, which remained constant throughout the collection, and which was recorded by the supervisors. Important finds such as flints were marked with flags and, kept separately as small finds (see below) then located with the GPS. During the period of the survey the GPS was faulty and functioned intermittently allowing for the recording of block locations but not spot finds.

The students collected all cultural material within their individual transect of each sweep, and bagged each transect separately. As the students were first years they picked up all visible cultural material regardless of period. It was also planned to record plastic waste to see what contribution this is making to the archaeological record and as it may act as a proxy of the different groups of foreign workers working in the fields in the modern period.

Post-survey processing consisted of finds washing, sorting and recording. The finds categories were designed to be both diagnostic and usable by students with little or no experience in finds work.

For the ceramics a variant of the types found in the Worcester Ceramic database (2018) was used. However, rather than use fabric as the main identifier as in the database, broad types based on surface decoration were employed (Table 1). This allowed for a rapid and reasonably accurate initial assessment of the material. Finds were recorded by location, type/material, count and weight. No finds were labelled, but select finds such as flint, coins, prehistoric pottery were separated and recorded as small finds (summarised in Table 2). Subsequently, the brick and tile were separated the brick being discarded and the tile retained. All the ceramic (including tile) finds were sieved and the fraction below 11 mm was discarded. In preparation for fabric analysis all of the pottery finds were amalgamated into their broad categories and photographed (see results below).

The categories can be broadly considered as follows:

| Category | Description | Dates and comments | References |
|---|---|---|---|
| Refined Earthenware | Industrially produced white wares, including creamware, pearlware. Transfer decorated and/or hand painted, or white glazed but undecorated | Could span late 18th – 20th century, WCD Fabric no. 90, as well as WCD Fabric no. 84 (18th to mid 19th). | Savage and Newman 1985: 297<br>Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |
| Red wares | Coarse red earthen wares with brown to black glaze | Late 16th – 19th century. Includes late/post medieval Midlands Purple, post-mediaeval north Midland Pancheon equivalents, as well as Red Wares. Also includes Red Ware, WCD Fabric nos. 77, 78, and 108. | Leicestershire Fieldworkers 2018<br><br>Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018<br><br>Wright and Hurst 2011 |
| Stoneware | High fired fused pottery, self-glazed, used in container production, e.g. marmalade jars. Can be salt glazed. | 16th-20th century, Nottingham Stoneware WCD Fabric nos. 81.2 81.3, 81.4, 81.5, 84.3, 84.4. The material found on this site is likely to range from 19th – 20th. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |
| Roman | Romano-British pottery, e.g. Severn Valley and other Roman period coarse wares, also | 1st – 4th century AD. The coarse wares tend to be very locally specific. WCD Fabric nos. 12, 12.2, 43.1 | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | potentially earlier types as well | | |
| Medieval pottery | Late mediaeval/post Medieval, earthenware, unglazed or with green glaze | Generically falls between 12th and 16th centuries. WCD Fabric nos. 55, 56, 64.1, 66, 69. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018<br><br>Leicestershire Fieldworkers 2018 |
| Buff Slipware | Buff coloured earthenware fabrics with yellow and brown slipped decoration. A variety of combed decorations and pie-crust rims | 17th – 18th century, post-Mediaeval, WCD Fabric no. 91. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |
| Clay pipe | White china clay stems and bowl fragments. | 17th – 20th century. | West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service 2018 |
| Glass | Modern bottle and vessel glass. | | |
| Kiln Furniture | Porcelain and earthenware elements used during the biscuit and glost firing stages of Porcelain production. | Late 18th – 20th century, WCD Fabric no. 83.01, and others. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |
| Porcelain waster | Unglazed, biscuit fired porcelain. Usually has a matte or slightly rough exterior. | Late 18th – 20th century, presumed fabric WCD Fabric no. 83.1. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |
| Yellow ware | Yellow glazed earthen ware, spans several categories. | Late 16th-19th Midlands Yellow, WCD Fabric no. 77. 18th – 19th centuries, Post-Medieval Orange Ware, WCD fabric no. 90, 19th – 20th century Yellow ware, WCD fabric no. 85, 94. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |
| Porcelain/Bone China | High fired, fully fused, vitreous paste, translucent white fabric, restricted to specific British and European | 1750's – 20th century production in Worcester City, WCD Fabric no. 83.1. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | manufacturers. Also includes Chinese imported wares and bone china. Decoration tends to be hand painted, gilded, as well as transfer patterned. | | |
| Samian Ware | Gaulish produced table ware, fine paste with glossy red slip coating, high fired. | 1st – late 2nd/3rd century AD, WCD Fabric nos. 43.1, 43.2 and 43.3, for example. | Worcestershire Ceramic Database 2018 |

Table 1. Categories used in the ceramic analysis

These categories can be broadly considered as representing the following broad time periods:

- Roman and Romano-British: coarse, hand and wheel made earthen wares generally red/gray fabrics, some with dark gray cores;
- Medieval: includes small quantities of green/brown/yellow glazed wares with a red fabric, may also include the soft red fabrics as well;
- Post medieval to modern domestic wares: Red and Black (Red-purple (fabric) black (glaze)), Slipwares, brown glaze with yellow pattern (glaze), transfer wares and other painted earthen wares, stonewares and salt glazed wares, tin oxide, yellow wares, porcelain;
- Post medieval to modern industrial waste: kiln furniture (saggars, rings etc.), porcelain wasters dominated by biscuit fired wasters but other types are also present.

Results: Field survey

A total of around 3982 finds ranging in date from the middle Palaeolithic through to the modern period were collected, this included 2211 pieces (21 kilos) of brick and tile from an area of approximately 36,500 $m^2$ (3.65 ha) around 1 find every 10 $m^2$. After sorting and sieving, including removing the brick and tile, a working collection of approximately 1771 pieces of pottery (1034), tobacco pipe and bowls (133), glass (285), flint (22), metal (48), slag (39), slate (27) and plastic (182) were retained for future analysis. Within this sample included a total of 43 small finds were inventoried in 2016, and a further 6 in 2017 (Table 2).

In summary the pattern of discard is dominated by durable materials especially ceramics, with smaller amounts of glass and metal, these mainly date to the last two centuries, little identifiable post war pottery and comparatively speaking a small amount of plastic was collected. Pottery, flint and other materials representing most periods from the Middle Palaeolithic to the present day were recovered.

| S.F. No | Description | Context | Photo no | *n* | Hedge | Date | Plate no. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Coin 50p and token | OY16 B2 S2 T2 | 255-260, 263-264 | 2 | | 2001 | |
| 2 | Coin penny | OY16 B1 S3 T2 | 289-290 | 1 | | 1936 | |
| 3 | Flint blade, light gray flint, ochreous patination, similar to s.f 9 | OY16 B2 S1 T2 | 267-268, 343-344 | 1 | 5 | Palaeolithic to Neolithic but more likely upper Paleolithic | 2 |
| 4 | Flint flake, light gray, no patination, similar to s.f. 6 | OY16 B1 S1 T3 | 285-286 | 1 | 3 | Neolithic to Bronze Age | |
| 5 | Flint blade, opaque mottled orange brown | OY16 B2 S1 T3 | 281-282, 338-340 | 1 | 7 | Mesolithic (?) | |
| 6 | Flint flake, end scraper, dark gray | OY16 B1 S3 T2 | 275-276 | 1 | 2 | Early Neolithic | 4 |
| 7 | Burnt flint, unworked | OY16 B1 S1 T1 | 272-273 | 1 | | | |
| 8 | Flint flake, dark gray, translucent with heavy white cortex, similar to s.f. 6 | OY16 B2 S2 T1 | 265-266 | 1 | | | |
| 9 | Flint blade, light gray, ochreous patination | OY16 B3 S2 T2 | 301-302, 341-342 | 1 | 6 | Palaeolithic to Neolithic most likely Upper Palaeolithic | 3 |
| 10 | Flint piece, abraded, rounded dark orange brown flint nodule with some white cortex and ochreous patination, worked | OY16 B5 S1 T3 | 299-300 | 1 | | | |
| 11 | Flint flake, dark gray, translucent, similar to s.f. 6, has signs of working | OY16 B5 S1 T6 | 279-280 | 1 | | Neolithic (?) | |
| 12 | Flint flake, dark gray, translucent, rhomboidal, some flaking along one edge, similar flint to s.f. 6 | OY16 B2 S1 T2 | 287-288 | 1 | | | |
| 13 | Flint blade | U of W St John's site spot find | 277-278, 345-346 | | | | |
| 14 | Flint, side scraper, opaque mottled mid gray | OY16 B2 S2 T1 | 293-296 | 1 | 4 | Neolithic to Bronze Age | 5 |
| 15 | Burnt flint flake, looks like debitage has a thick white cortex | OY16 B1 S3 | 297-298 | 1 | | Neolithic (?) | |
| 16 | Burnt flint, unworked | OY16 B2 S3 T6 | 283-284 | 1 | | | |
| 17 | Burnt flint, unworked | OY16 B2 S2 T8 | 271-272 | 1 | | | |
| 18 | Quartz flake worked | OY 17 spot find | 303-304 | 1 | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | Flint flake similar to s.f. 9, light gray, with ochreous patination unworked? | OY 17 Trench 6 Context 1 | 305-306 | 1 | | | |
| 20 | Flint blade, dark gray mottled translucent | OY17 spot find, nr Trench 6 | 269-270 | 1 | | Neolithic / Bronze Age | |
| 21 | Flint, light gray abraded with ochreous patination, may be fragment of a small pebble | OY17 Trench 1 Context 1 East Quad | | 1 | | | |
| 22 | Flint biface, mottled orange/blue mini handaxe, Wermer's Type 'E', good condition, little edge damage | OY16 B3 S1 T1 | RH nos 1-2 | 1 | 1 | (?Late) Middle Palaeolithic | 1 |
| 23 | Ground stone tool | OY 17 Tr1 topsoil | 328-331 | 1 | | | 8 |
| 24 | Ground stone tool | OY 17 Tr1 topsoil | 332-337 | 1 | | | 9 |
| 25 | Lead scrap | OY16 B3 S2 T8 | 307-308 | 1 | | | |
| 27 | Clay nodule with fabric impression | OY16 B1 S1 T4 | 309-311 | 1 | | | |
| 28 | Green Glaze body sherd | OY16 B3 S1 T4 | 436-437 | 1 | | | 29 |
| 29 | Prehistoric/Roman coarse rim sherd | OY16 B2 S2 T3 | 438-439 | 1 | | | |
| 30 | Prehistoric/Roman body sherd | OY16 spot find | 440-442 | 1 | | | |
| 31 | Prehistoric/Roman body sherd | OY16 spot find | 440-442 | 1 | | | |
| 32 | Prehistoric sherd | OY16 spot find | 443-444 | 1 | | | |
| 33 | Prehistoric/Roman sherds | OY16 B1 S2 T2 | 445-446 | 2 | | | |
| 34 | Roman rim sherd | OY16 B1 S4 T4 | 447-448 | 1 | | | |
| 35 | Roman/Medieval handle | OY16 B1 S3 T3 | 449-450 | 1 | | | |
| 36 | Roman base sherd | OY16 B1 S3 T5 | 451-452 | 1 | | | |
| 37 | Samian body sherd | OY16 B2 S2 T2 | 453-454 | 1 | | | 33 |
| 38 | Green glaze base sherd | OY16 B2 S3 T2 | 455-456 | 1 | | | 32 |
| 39 | Porcelain wasters painted | OY16 B2 S1 T7 and various locations | 457-458 | 5 | | | |
| 40 | Romano-British/Medieval rim | OY16 spot find | 459-460 | 1 | | | |
| 41 | Glass bead, modern | OY16 B2 S3 T4 | 461 | 1 | | | |
| 42 | Flint, dark gray, translucent, similar to s.f. 6, with white cortex | OY16 B1 S4 T1 | 10 | 2 | | | |
| 43 | Fire cracked rock | OY16 B2 S1 T2 | 11 | 1 | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 44 | Flint, dark gray, fragment, translucent similar to s.f. 6 | OY16 B1 S1 T1 | | 1 | | | |
| 45 | Flint, fragments with a heavy white patination, one may be worked | OY16 B2 S3 T6 | | 2 | | | |
| 46 | Button, modern | OY16 B2 S3 T4 | 461 | 1 | | | |
| 47 | Button, modern | OY16 B1 S3 T2 | 291-292 | 1 | | | |
| 48 | Ground stone ard | OY 16 spot find | 312-319 | 1 | | | 6 |
| 49 | Ground stone rubber | OY 16 spot find | 320-325 | 1 | | | 7 |

Table 2. Small Finds, context and Photo log.

The majority of the finds of all periods are found in the western part of the survey area (Blocks 1, 2, 3, 5) which have nearly ten times as many finds in total (n=3515) as blocks 4 and 6 (n=467). Block 1, in particular was very abundant with nearly 1100 finds (Figure 3).

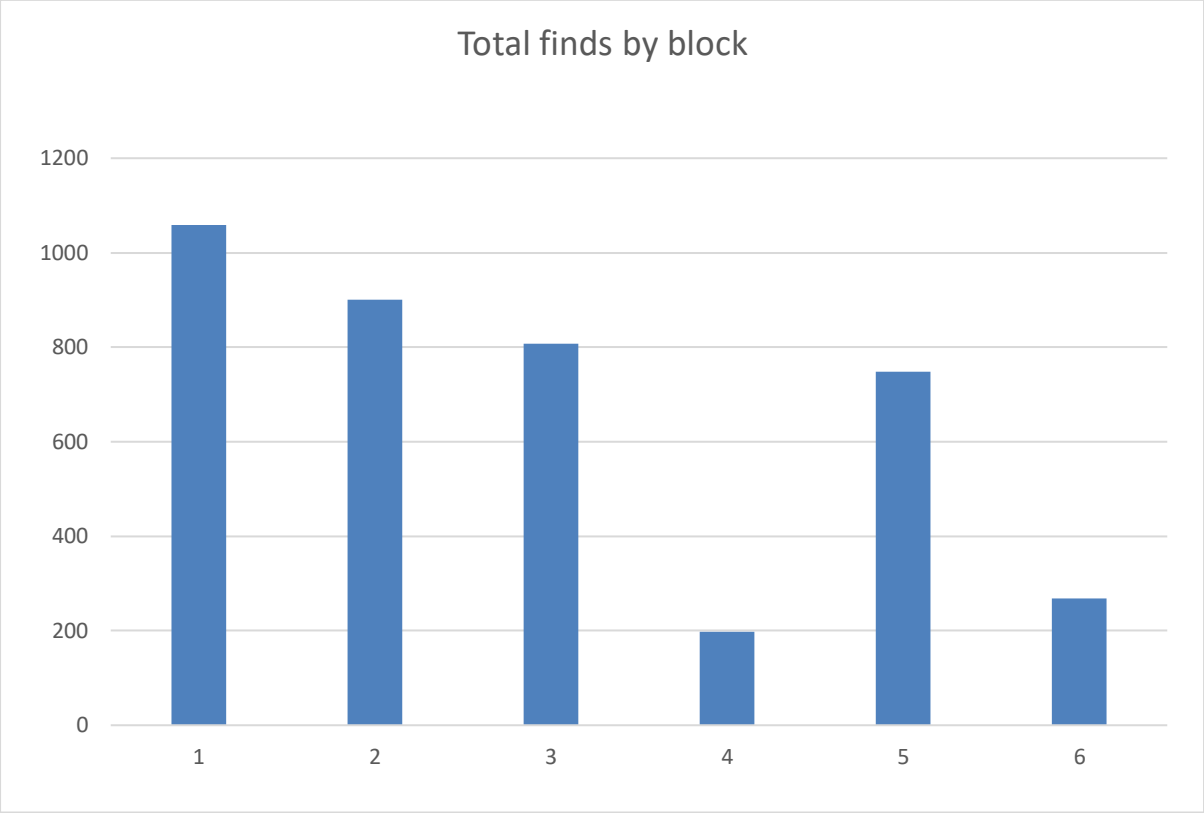



Figure 3. Total finds by Block

Lithics

Five types of lithic material were identified on the site:

- Flints

- ground stone
- Slate (roofing)
- Cotswold limestone
- Burnt stone

The most interesting from an archaeological perspective are the worked flints and stone tools, these come from an area in Blocks 1 and 2 associated with a wide spread of burnt stone. Slate is mainly located in Block 1, with a limited distribution elsewhere. Around 10 small fragments of Cotswold stone mainly oolitic in nature were identified during the post excavation sort with a general spread across the site.

*Flint*

A total of 21 pieces of prehistoric worked, unworked and burnt flint was found during fieldwalking (Table 1, Figures 4, 5, 7). The flint finds were concentrated in Blocks 1 and 3, in an area of the field bisected by a hedge division. Of that collection, 14 pieces were worked and 7 pieces were burnt. Amongst the worked flint, 7 pieces have been analysed by Rob Hedge (2016) of Worcester Archaeological Service and included a small honey coloured bifacial Wymer's type 'E' mini-hand axe of late Middle Palaeolithic date (s.f 22, Plate 1, RH no. 1), as well as a broken flake (s.f. 3, Plate 2 RH no. 5) and an end scraper of similar date (s.f. 9 Plate 3, RH no. 6). Other identifiable pieces included a scraper (s.f. 6, Plate 4, RH no. 2) notched flake (s.f. 14, Plate 5, RH no. 4) and other flakes dating to the Mesolithic and into the Neolithic/Bronze Age.

*Ground Stone*

Four pieces of ground stone of prehistoric date were recovered (Table 1, Figure 5) all in the west of the site, one ard (s.f. 48, Plate 6) and three rubbing stones (s.f. 49, Plate 7, s.f. 23, Plate 8, s.f. 24, Plate 9). The context of the rubbing stones corresponds to the area of fire cracked rock straddling Blocks 1 and 3.

*Slate and other stone*

A large amount of debris from building/ demolition was recovered from the site mainly brick and tile. Presumably, as part of this process roofing slate was introduced as well. Several small fragments of Cotswolds limestone were also found, possibly as a result of either liming or as part of the building debris.

*Pottery*

Pottery was the largest category of recovered finds with over 1034 pieces of vessel, 133 pieces of tobacco clay pipe (Plate 25) and 126 pieces of porcelain and other waster (Plates 17-19) recovered and identified. The largest category of pottery found was post-medieval, but a significant amount of Roman (Plates 28, 29, 30, 31, 32), and Medieval material (Plates 28-31) was recovered as well.

*Romano-British/Medieval*

Thirty-two sherds of Romano-British material were recovered, dominated by oxidised Severn Valley ware (s.f. 29, Plate 30, s.f. 30-31, Plate 31) plus a single piece of Samian ware (s.f. 37, Plate 32). Forty sherds of medieval pottery were recovered, split evenly between glazed and unglazed wares, all

locally produced. The Romano-British, Samian and unglazed Medieval pottery was generally concentrated in Blocks 1, 2 and 5. Finally, 18 sherds of medieval green glaze were recovered predominately from Blocks 1 and 3 (s.f. 28, Table 3 Plates 29, 32).

| | Block 1 | Block 2 | Block 3 | Block 4 | Block 5 | Block 6 | total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Roman | 10 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 32 |
| Unglazed Medieval | 5 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 22 |
| Glazed Medieval | 7 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7 | | 18 |

Table 3. Roman and Medieval finds by Block

*Post-Medieval*

The post-medieval domestic and agricultural ware collection was dominated by red wares e.g. domestic wares which have a red to purple fabric and black to brown glaze including Midlands Purple n=247 (Plates 10, 11). Other wares included slipware (n=73) (Plate 12) and stonewares (n=39) (Plate 13), with the vast majority coming from blocks 1 and 2.

Factory produced pottery included 537 pieces of refined earthenware and porcelain/bone china. Decoration included transfer wares, ranging from traditional blue 'willow pattern' (Plate 14) to pink, green and brown variants (Plate 15). There were also 38 fragments of hand-painted or other pieces of decorated porcelain (Plate 16). The dates for both porcelain and transfer wares range from the middle 18$^{th}$ century through to the 20$^{th}$ century, though the bulk is likely to be from the 19$^{th}$ century.

Industrial or factory waste was the next largest category, with 126 pieces of porcelain, bone china and white ware wasters recovered (Plates 17, 18 and 19). In addition to the porcelain wasters was approximately 51 pieces of kiln furniture (Plate 21). Small amounts of industrial slag (Plate 22) were found across the fields along with other evidence of industrial fires such as coal, partially melted cullet glass etc. In addition to porcelain factory waste we also found a clay pipe waster (Plate 23, bottom row left) along with a fabric impressed lump of fired red clay possibly from a tile factory (s.f. 27, Plate 24).

There were smaller amounts of stoneware, salt glaze and other coarse wares (Plate 13), with less than 70 pieces of 20$^{th}$ century material.

*Glass*

In total 285 pieces of glass were collected, including 17 Lea and Perrin's bottle stoppers (Plate 26). Of the glass, 8 were potentially older than the 19$^{th}$ century (Plate 27, lower right corner, showing delamination and recrystallization), and 1 modern glass bead (s.f. 41).

*Miscellaneous*

Items in the miscellaneous category included a single piece of fired clay with a fabric impression (as above, s.f. 27, Plate 24), a coin from the late 20$^{th}$ century, a single piece of worked lead, and a

quantity of modern agriculture material, including fabric gloves, thin plastic sheeting, and a 'Euroshopper' energy drink container (Table 7).

| | total |
|---|---|
| Coin | 1 |
| Metal | 48 |
| Slag | 40 |
| Slate | 26 |
| Bamboo | 8 |
| Bone | 6 |
| Coal | 2 |
| Plastic | 179 |
| Fabric | 3 |
| Charcoal | 12 |
| button | 2 |

Table 4. Miscellaneous finds total

**Fieldwork: Test pits and pickup 2017**

Introduction and method

The analysis of the results of the fieldwalking suggested the presence of a possible prehistoric site, based on the distribution of flints and fire cracked rocks a series of test pits were dug in March 2017 (7th and 14th respectively). In total seven 2 m x 2 m test pits were dug by hand, approximately 28 x 12 $m^2$ (Figure 6). Excavation was conducted using the single context planning system (MoLAS 1994). Soil was sieved on a roughly every other bucket basis. Context forms were completed by the student trench teams, and checked by the director (Dr Helen Loney). Trenches were backfilled on the 28th of March, 2017.

Results

Upon removing the topsoil, the seven test pits revealed a widespread plough zone of mottled yellowish brown and reddish-brown sandy and clayey silts overlying a yellow-brown clayey sand with pebbles. Trench Five recovered plough marks in context 5002 (Appendix 1). Some of the trenches suggested the possibility of a buried soil.

The finds identified covered periods from prehistoric, Roman/Medieval, Post-Medieval up to the present day. Materials recovered included flints, pottery, brick and tile, glass and fire cracked rock. Overall, 268 pieces of material were collected (Appendix 2).

**Prehistoric**

The prehistoric period was represented by lithics, including worked and unworked flint, ground stone, and a spread of fire cracked rock. The worked flint (s.f. 20, Figure 6, Plate 33, b) and a possible ground stone tool were recovered from the surface (s.f. 49, Plate 33, a). In Trench Six, a piece of unworked flint, 4 cm x 5 cm in dimension, was recovered from Context 6002 (s.f. 19, Plate 33, c).

**Roman/Medieval**

There was a single piece of green glaze pottery found in Context 1000, Trench 1, and a single piece of possibly medieval brick found in Context 2001, Trench 2.

**Post Medieval**

A single piece of buff slipware was recovered from the plough zone, Trench Five. A single piece of pre-Industrial glass was recovered from below the plough zone, Trench Six.

**Industrial**

The pottery finds were dominated by 19th and potentially 20th century rustic and refined earthenware. The dominant types included red wares, 'brown betty' tea pot fragments, transfer wares, and a single fragment of porcelain/bone china.

Also present was industrial debris from the porcelain works, including saggar fragments, porcelain/bone china rings, unglazed porcelain/bone china wasters, and a single piece of glazed porcelain/bone china waster.

Finally, modern brick, tile and other coarse products were present, in relatively low numbers, as were scrap metals and plastics.

## Discussion of fieldwalking and excavation, 2016-2017

The results of the excavation were negative and did not produce any further evidence of settlement. With only manual tools and a short time frame it was not possible to get below the plough zone in the test pits which was between 0.5-0.75 m in most trenches. If this was to be attempted again machine stripping would be essential. This exercise and its related pick up did however discover more flints and defined the area of fire cracked rocks (Figure 6). The depth of homogeneous plough soil is close to the effective detection limits of both resistivity and magnetometry (Clark and Clark 2003).

The distribution of finds suggests deposition is largely focussed on the western blocks with Block 1 being a particular focus for domestic refuse and building debris, whilst Block 3 seems to contain the most industrial waste.

Taking together the results of the two exercises with the earlier geophysics (Thomas 2016) it is not possible to say if there is a settlement present at this site. What is clear is that there have been sustained periods of human activity and discard at the site over a very considerable time period ranging from the Middle Palaeolithic through to the present day.

Prehistoric

Finds from prehistoric periods were confined to Blocks 1-3, 5 these consisted of flint and stone tools, burnt cracked stone and possibly some pottery from the Iron Age (Figure 4, Figure 6). We are thankful to Rob Hedge of the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology service for examining seven flints from the fieldwalking in 2016 and providing this interpretation (Hedge 2016, Appendix 3). Hedge interpreted these flints as representing three phases of activity: Middle Palaeolithic, Upper

Palaeolithic/Mesolithic, and Neolithic/Bronze Age. Based on a crude visual examination there are four broad categories of flint based on their surface characteristics, an ochreous patinated light gray flint, a dark gray translucent flint which is occasionally mottled, burnt flint and a single flake of mottled yellow gray flint. All of which, with the exception of the mottled yellow gray flint, are both worked and unworked. Three pieces of worked stone consist of 'bunter' cobbles derived from the local gravels and a possible quartzite 'ard'.

Middle Palaeolithic – Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic

This period is represented a miniature biface - Wymer's type E handaxe (s.f. 22 Plate 1, RH no. 1). Only 4.94 cm long and weighing 15.9 g this is a very rare find for Worcestershire and indeed nationally. The freshness of the piece and lack of evidence of fluvial rolling suggests deposition in situ. The site is located on Pleistocene Holt Heath terrace deposits of the Severn dating to the Wolstonian stage according to the current BGS mapping c. 350,000 years to c.130,000 years ago (2016).

Several pieces of light gray flint with an ochreous patination (Figure 4) were examined by Hedge who considered them to be of considerable antiquity possibly Upper Palaeolithic or Mesolithic. These together with unworked flint of similar morphology cluster in the South of the walked area with unworked flint mainly in the north and west.

Neolithic and Bronze Age

This is an early stage of the analysis and so these chronological attributions should be considered preliminary pending further work. Hedge identified a number of dark grey flint artefacts as dating to the Neolithic/Bronze Age mainly various kinds of scraper, their distribution together with burnt flints and ground stone tools are shown on Figure 5. Again, the finds are broadly located in Block 1 with several others in the south of the area walked. These finds together with the concentration of fire cracked stone suggests a focus of activity in Block 1. Finds such as a possible ard suggest that farming was being practised in this location. A number of ground stone tools were located in Trench 1. of the excavation and an unworked flint was found in Trench 6 and a small worked flint was found on the surface near this trench.

There is evidence from the Western portion of the site of an unusual concentration of materials associated with some form of Prehistoric site dating to the Neolithic or Bronze Age frustratingly it has not been possible to identify any physical remains related to this activity.

Roman and Romano-British

There is a small amount of material definitely identified to this period, with 32 sherds including a single fragment of Samian. This is largely located in Blocks 1, 2 and 5. It is likely that this represents the distribution of field waste from a site within the local area. Given the low level of material and its heavily abraded nature it is also possible that some of this pottery derives from redeposited Roman material during waste disposal from urban areas in the eighteenth and nineteenth century (e.g. Bryant 2011).

Medieval

After analysis of the initial assemblage 40 pieces of Medieval pottery were identified, although some of the Midlands purple may date to the late Medieval period. It is commonly assumed that much of this would be probably due to the spreading of midden from adjacent farms, though there is evidence elsewhere of rubbish re-deposition from urban middens from the post-medieval period onwards (e.g. Ruffle 2012).

Post Medieval

By far the bulk of the material recovered is from this period and represents a wide variety of materials both organic and inorganic. The largest of these categories are the various types of ceramic. The majority of this material was probably transported to the fields and dumped, rather than waste associated with the nearby farms. The various ordnance survey maps suggest up until the recent reorganisation, Blocks 1 and 2 would have been reached by the track to the West which runs from Oldbury Road to Lower Temple Laugherne, Blocks 3-5 would have been reached by the track from Ambrose Farm and so the differences in deposition between the various blocks may represent differences in landholding and attitudes to waste disposal during the past 250 years. One issue that the project needs to investigate is the timing of waste collection services in the city of Worcester and the parish of St. Johns and when rural collections started.

The majority of the collection is represented by refined earthenwares and porcelain/bone china dating from the middle of the 18th century onwards. The second most populous category is post medieval red wares, broadly dating from at the earliest the sixteenth century through to the twentieth century (Patrick and Rátkai 2008: 103). Red wares along with buff slip wares and other post medieval pottery is interpreted as potentially the result of consumption on the local farms and spread onto the fields as midden. It is possible that some of the refined earthen wares also originate from local domestic refuse.

The other forms of waste present are from several different sources

- local domestic waste presumably collected locally either in the city or in the suburb of St. Johns and transported to these fields to be dumped
- building waste such as brick, tile and slate from local sites
- Industrial waste from the porcelain factories, this includes kiln furniture and waste from the production process
- Other industrial waste such as slag, cullet glass, fragments of brick and/or tile waster, clay pipe wasters etc.

Whether these differing forms of waste are brought as individual lots and then mixed in the fields or were collected and mixed prior to deposition is not known, the concentration of industrial debris from the porcelain factories suggests that for some at least of this waste is occurring as individual lots from particular factories.

**Summary and Conclusions**

Two seasons of archaeological investigations at Oldbury Farm has revealed a significant quantity of archaeological materials across a long timeline. Intensive and systematic fieldwalking, artefact pick up and subsequent test pit investigation at Oldbury Farm, Worcester, has resulted in the recovery of finds from almost all periods of human occupation in Worcestershire, from earliest in the middle Palaeolithic

through to most recent. Fieldwalking in 2016 informed the further investigation into the prehistoric record at Oldbury farm, through test-pitting and further collection of surface finds.

The project aims have been informed by the West Midland and Worcester City research frameworks, and contribute to a number of priorities and research themes. Taken chronologically, the discovery of a middle Palaeolithic mini-handaxe represents a critical find in the understanding of the extent and nature of early human occupation in the West Midlands (Watt 2011:13, see also Russell et al 2018). Test pits in the area of discovery were inconclusive, as was an earlier geophysical survey (Thomas 2016). However, the depth of overburden uncovered suggests that under the limited time constraints in March 2017, further work may be justified.

Other significant finds include the discovery of later prehistoric lithics and ceramics, Roman period ceramics, including a piece each of Malvernian and Samian wares. Though unlikely to represent settlement activity at this point, it reminds us that the Iron Age and Roman periods are poorly understood in the hinterlands of Worcester (Barker et al 2007: 22).

The most striking result of the analysis was the high proportion of red wares and Buff slip wares, in relation to other post-medieval and modern materials. This collection offers an excellent opportunity to review and refine this broad category, in order to develop a more nuanced picture of local vs non-local production and consumption. Overall, there is the challenge offered by Belford to try and clarify a chrono-typology where forms can persist for well over 100-150 years in some instances (2011: 220).

Finally, there is a well-structured record of post-medieval/modern episodes of domestic and industrial deposition on site, which can inform the history and archaeology of historic ceramic consumption, the development of civic and social amenities, including waste disposal.

In conclusion, the results of our work confirm the utility and efficacy of intensive fieldwalking and collection, even over short periods of time. It also confirms the archaeological potential of the fields around Temple Laugherne in St. John's for all periods.

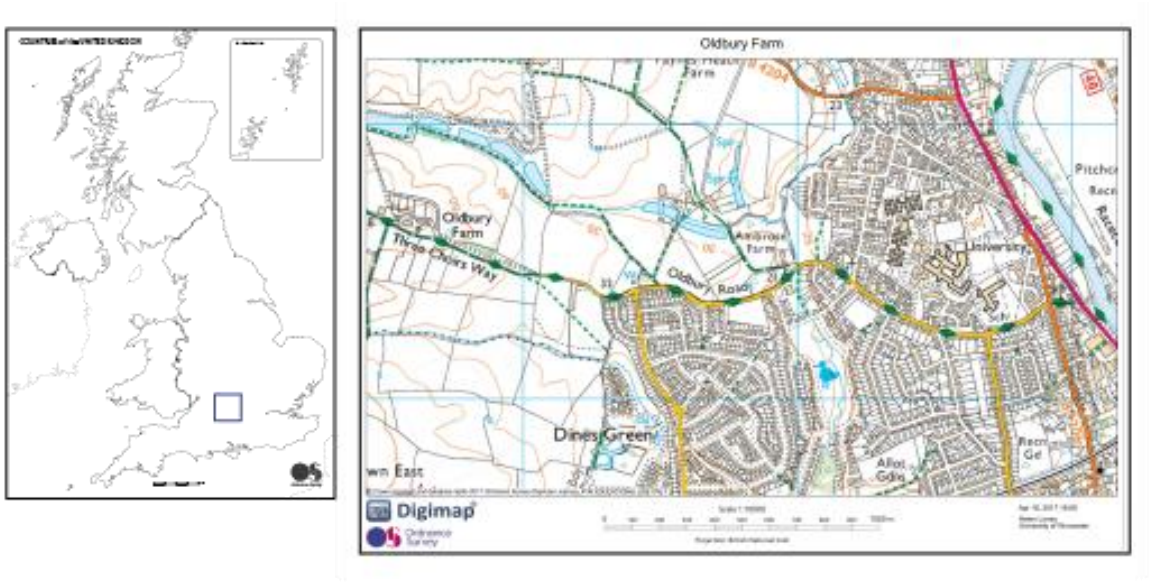
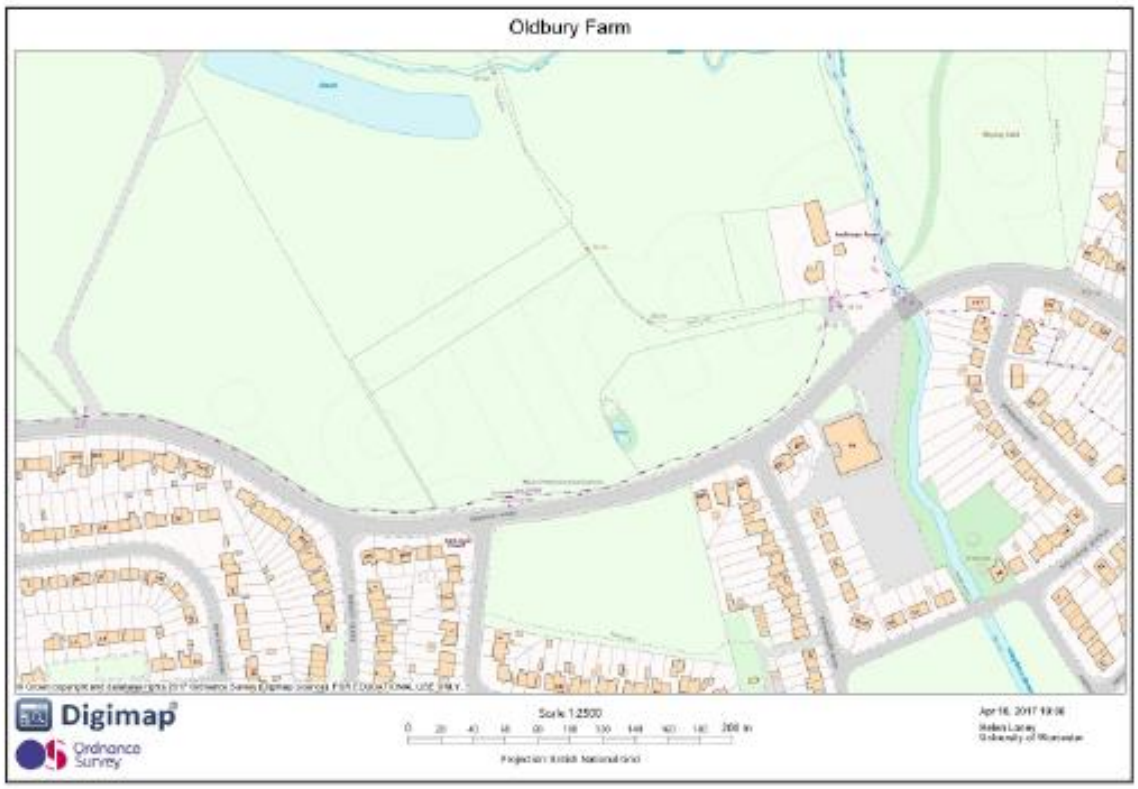



Figure 1 Location of Oldbury Farm, Worcestershire, UK



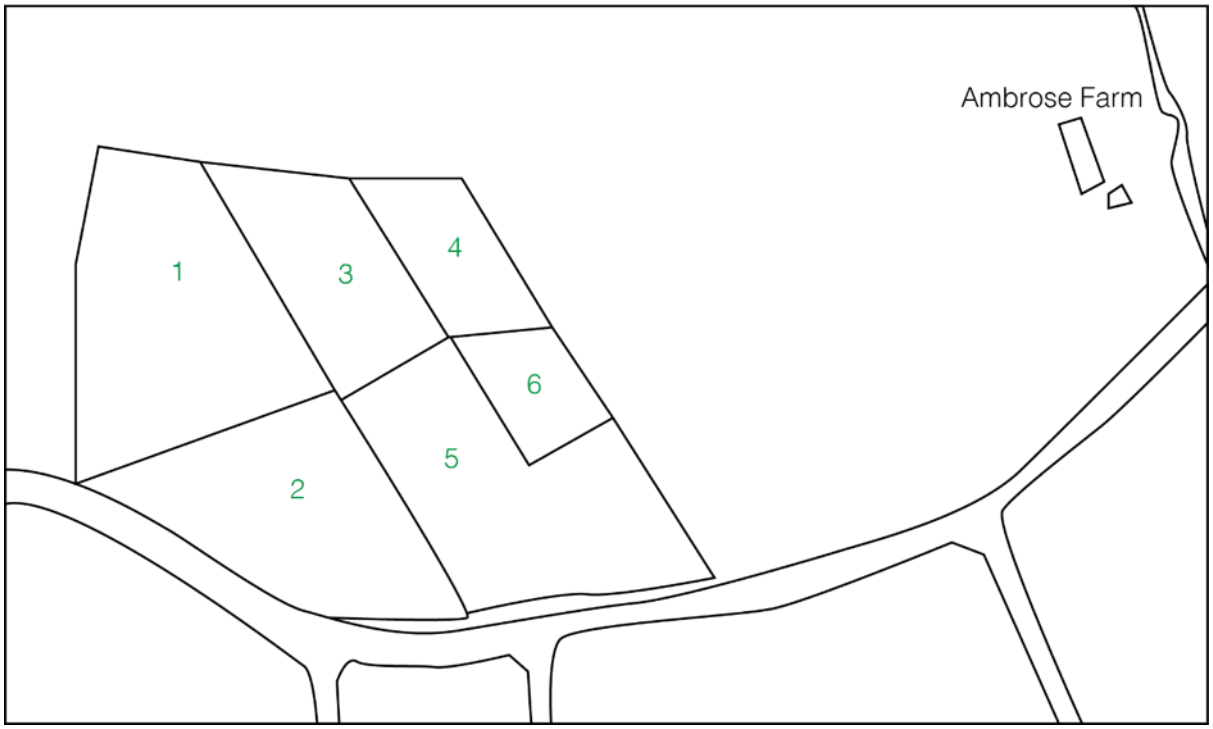



Figure 2. Map of Blocks and Fields walked in 2016


▲ Ochreous light gray flint worked flint is oblique text

Figure 4. Distribution of ochreous light gray flint.

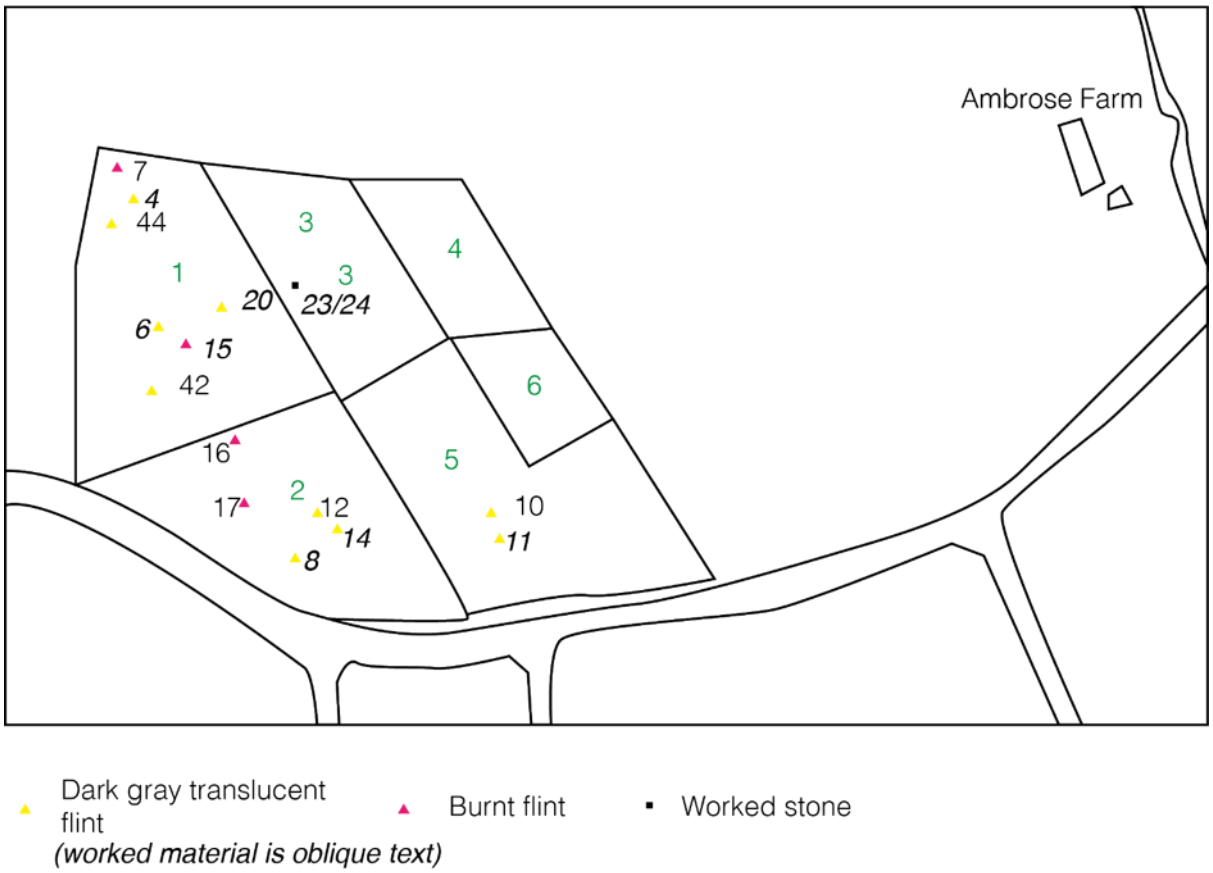



Figure 5. Distribution of gray flints and other lithics.

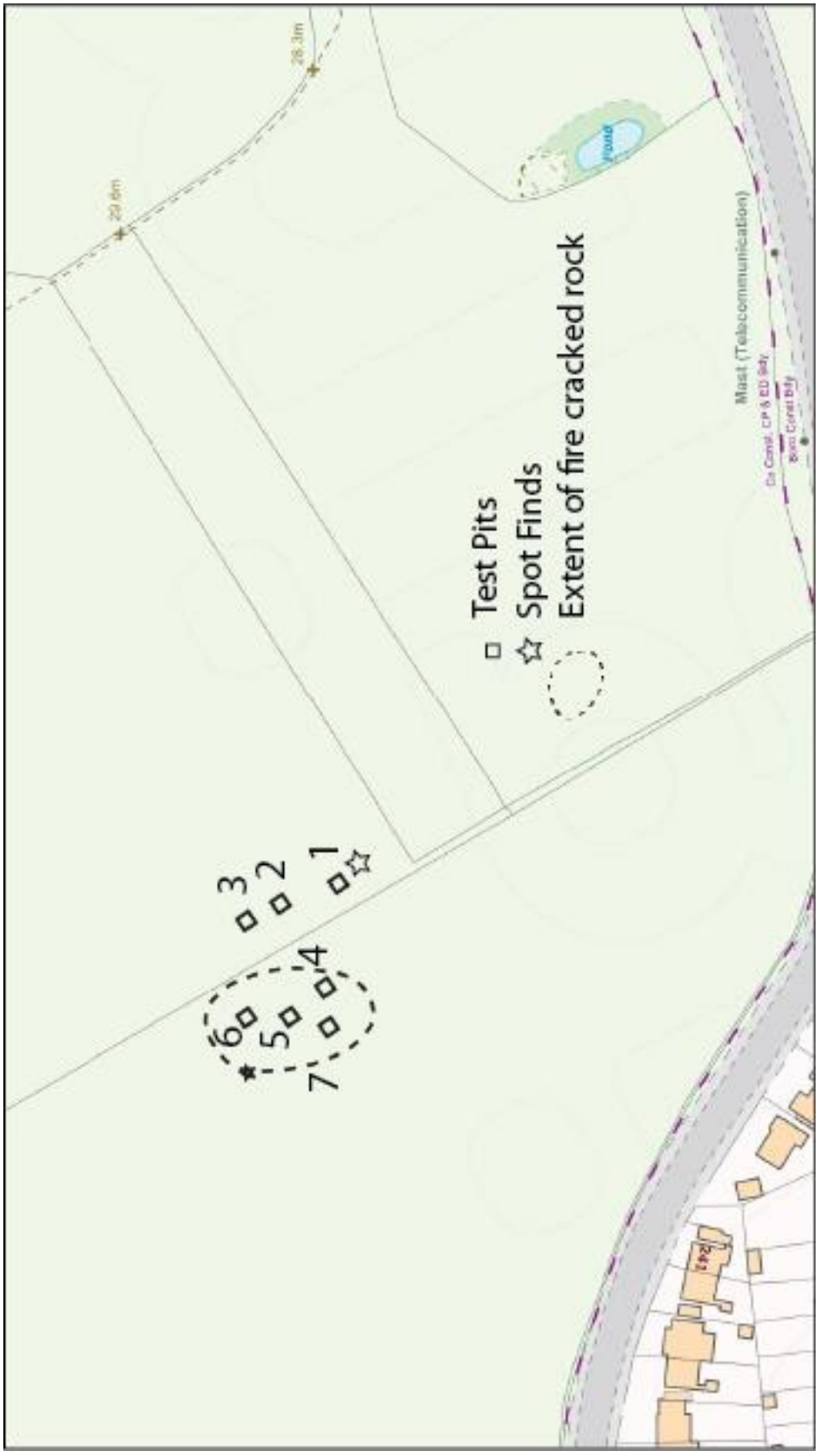



Figure 6. Location of Test Pits, spot finds and extent of fire-cracked rock.

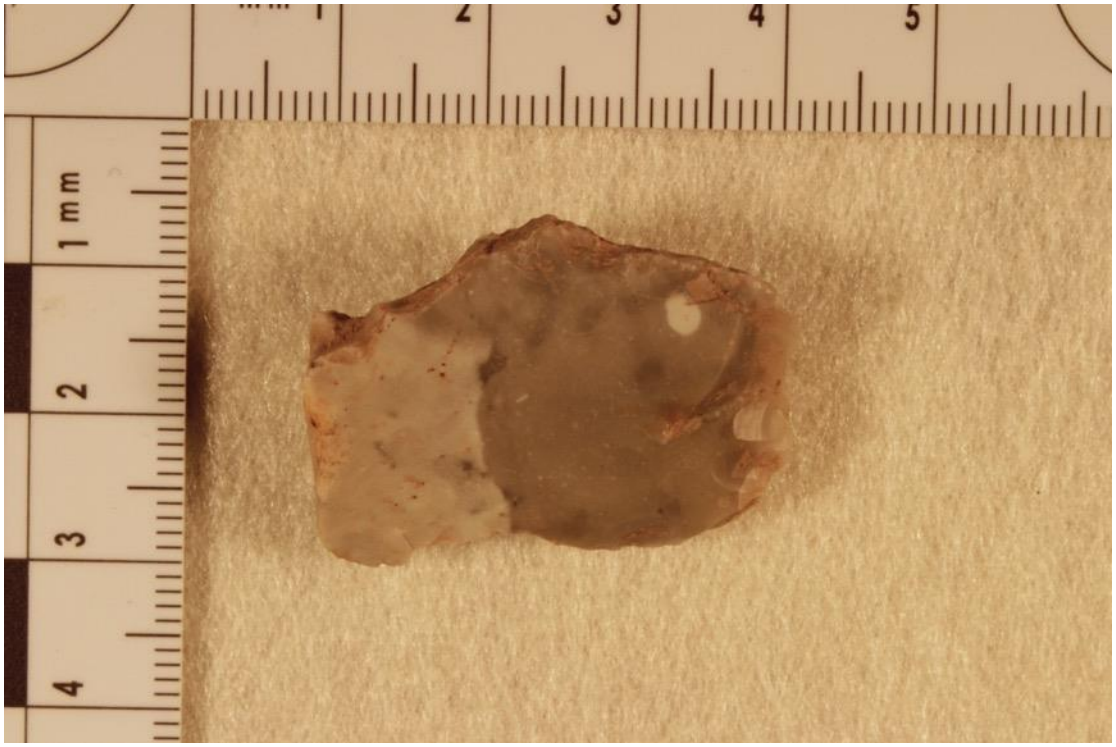
Plates


1. Mottled orange/blue flint biface, Wermer's Type 'E', Middle Palaeolithic (Hedge 2016) s.f. 22


2. Light gray flint blade, broken, no patination, similar to s.f. 9, likely Upper Palaeolithic (Hedge 2016) s.f. 3


3. Light gray flint blade, ochreous patination, likely Upper Palaeolithic (Hedge 2016) s.f. 9


4. Dark gray flint end scraper, Early Neolithic (Hedge 2016) s.f. 6




5. Opaque mottled mid grey side scraper, Neolithic/Bronze Age (Hedge 2016) s.f. 14


6. Ground stone ‘ard’, s.f. 48


7. Ground stone ‘rubber’, s.f. 49


8. Ground stone, s.f. 23

9. Ground stone, s.f. 24

10. Red wares


11. Red wares, handles and spout

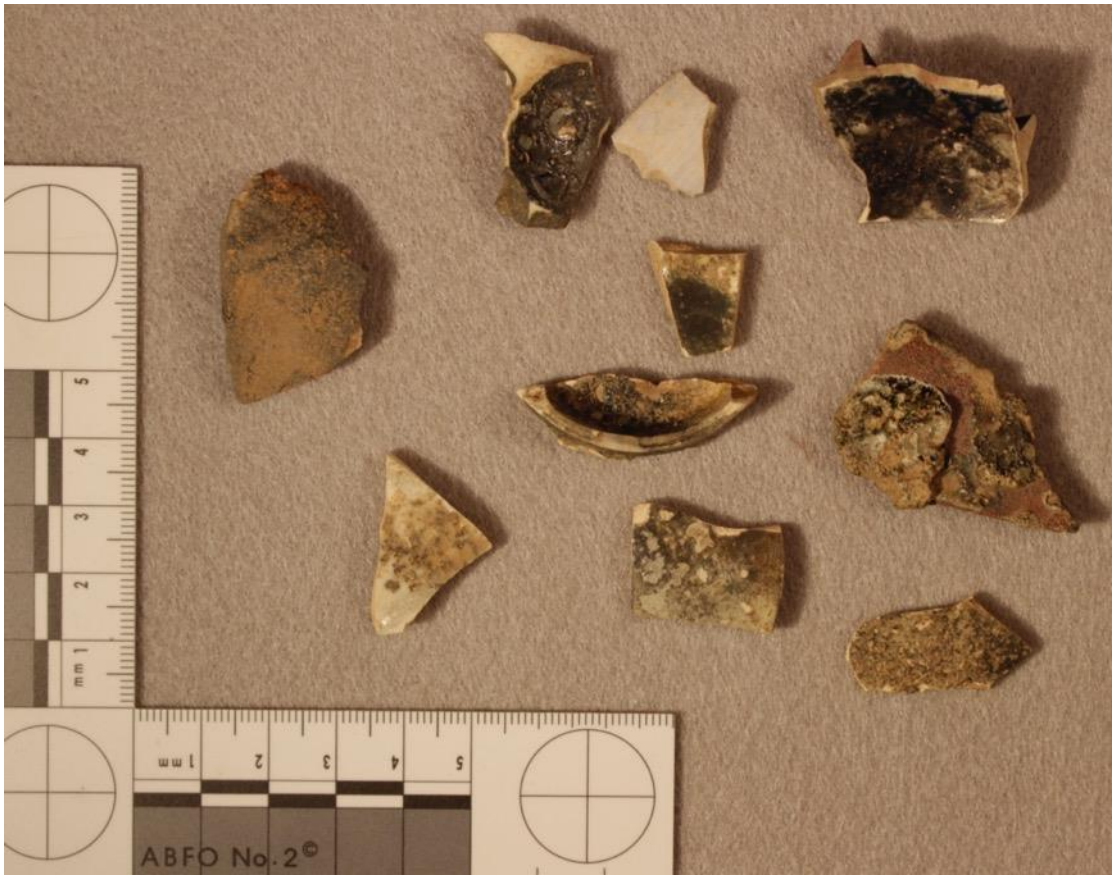
12. Buff slipware

13. Stoneware

14. Refined earthen wares, blue transfer decoration

15. Refined earthen wares, miscellaneous stoneware and yellow ware

16. Decorated porcelain and scratch stone ware




17. wasters – glazed

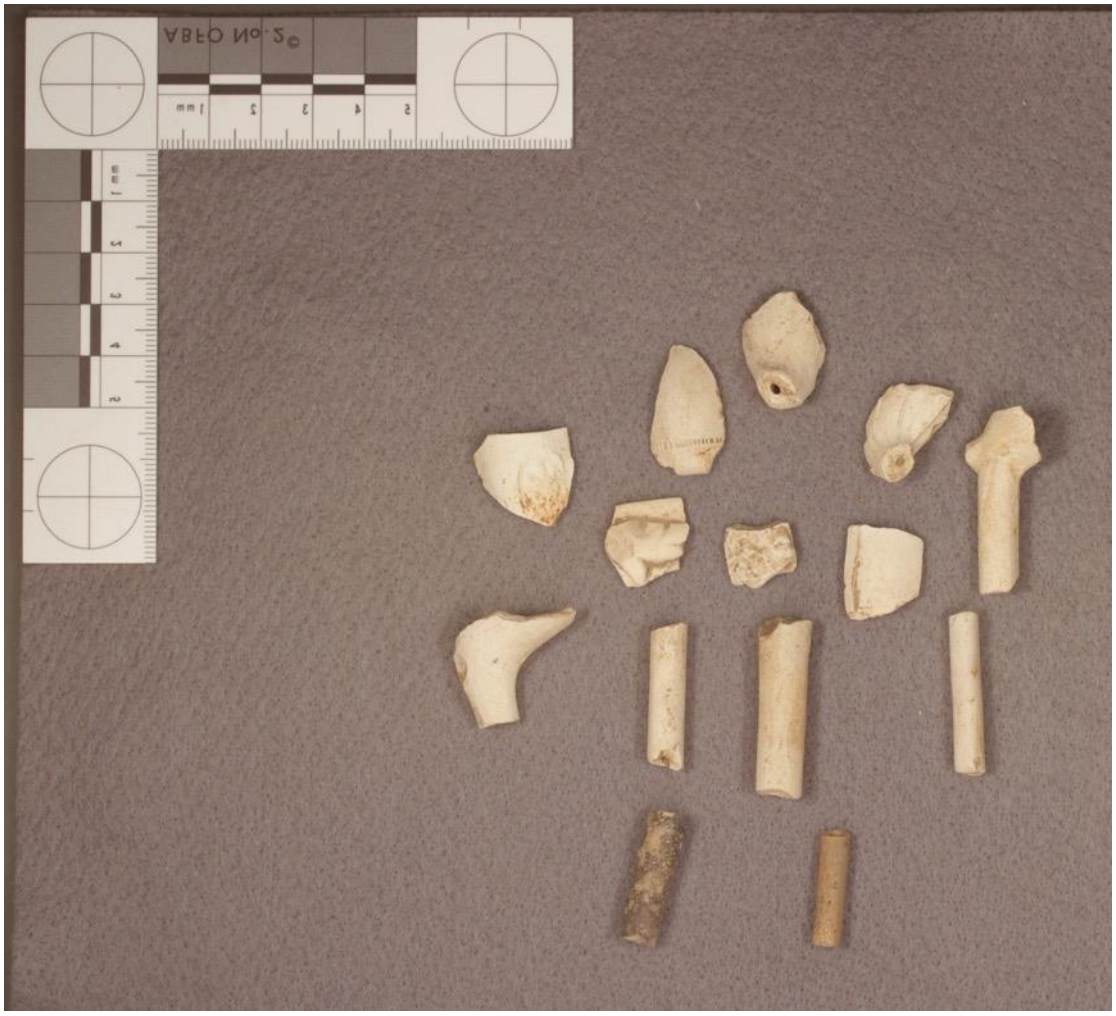

18. wasters – molded decoration


19. wasters


20. Refined earthenware


21. Kiln furniture and industrial wasters


22. Slag



23. Tobacco pipe stems and bowls, including waster (lower left)

24. Fired fabric impressed clay nodule

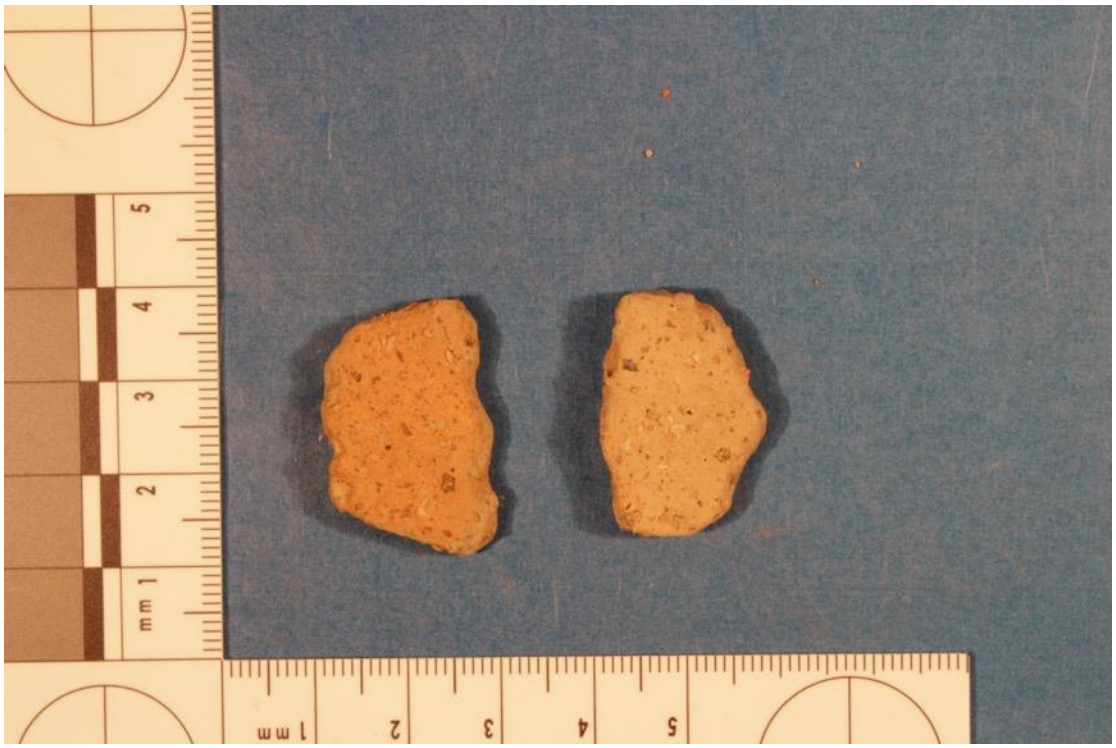
25. Tobacco pipe stems

26. Lea and Perrins glass stoppers and maker's marks

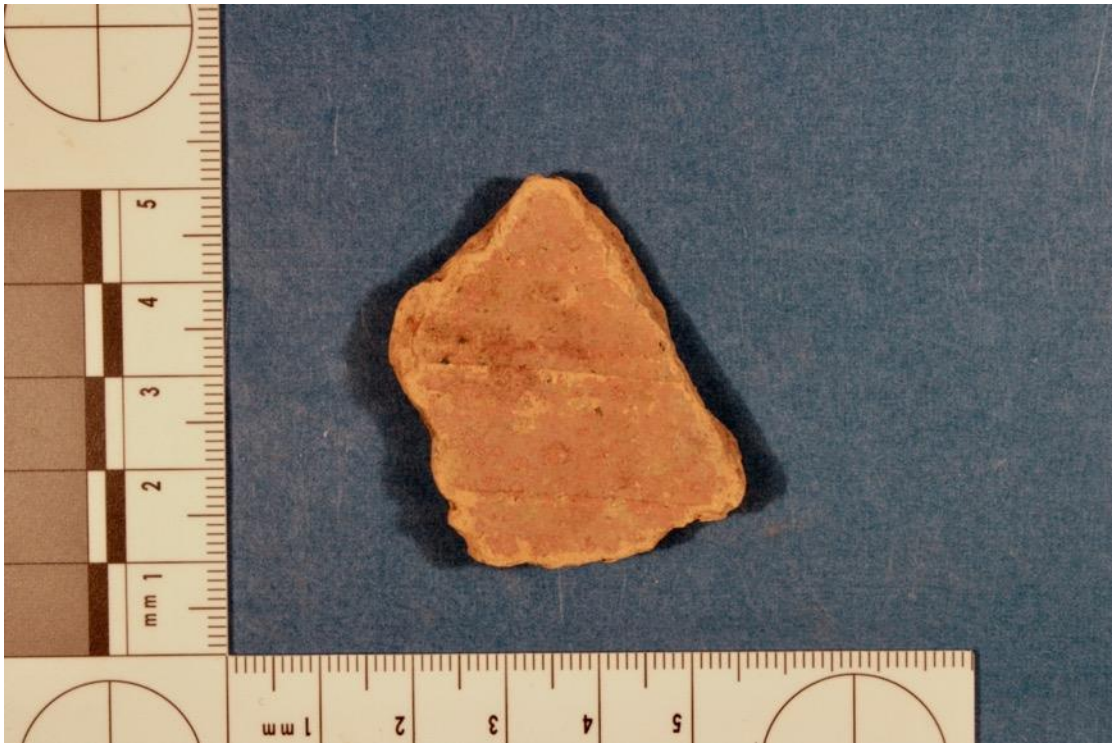
27. Glass, older glass lower right

28. Unglazed Roman/Medieval pottery

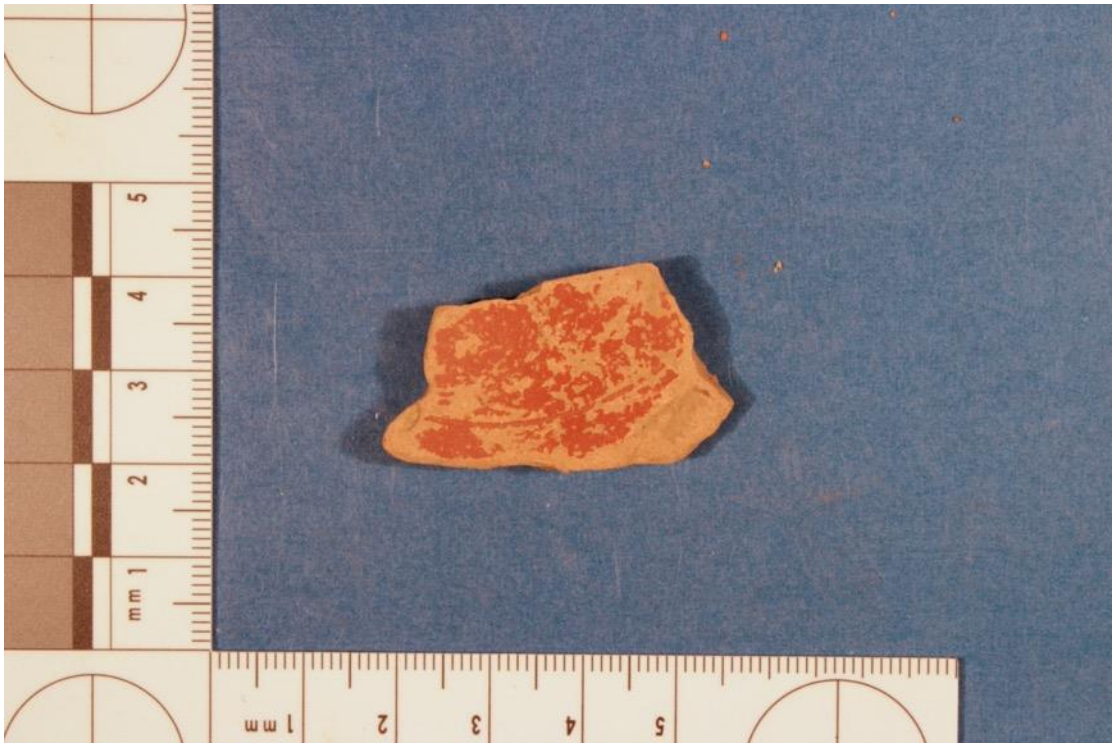
29. Medieval Glazed pottery



30. Romano British/Medieval sherd



31. Medieval Glazed



32. Samian body sherd

a) s.f. 49, ground stone tool, spot find

b) s.f. 20, flint tool, spot find

c) s.f. 19, unworked flint flake, Trench 6, context 6002.

33. s.f. 49, 20, 19, from Test Pits 2017.

Appendix 1: Context Summary

| Trench 1 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Context | Description | Depth |
| 1001 | Loosely compacted topsoil layer, dark reddish brown, silty sand, with 1-5% inclusions of rounded and subrounded medium pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm. | 0-36 cm |
| 1002 | Moderately compacted subsoil layer, dark reddish brown, clayey silt, with 1-5% inclusions of rounded and subrounded pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm. | 36-50 cm |
| | | |
| Trench 2 | | |
| 2001 | Loosely compacted topsoil layer, brown, clayey silt, with flecks of charcoal and 1-5% inclusions of rounded and subrounded medium pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm. | 0-35 cm |
| 2002 | Loosely compacted subsoil layer, yellowish red, silty clay with charcoal flecks. | 35-40 cm |
| 2003 | Loosely compacted subsoil layer, yellowish red, silty clay with charcoal flecks. | 40-50cm |
| 2004 | Loosely compacted layer, yellowish red, coarse sand, possibly natural. | 50 cm (nTE) |
| | | |
| Trench 3 | | |
| 3001 | Loosely compacted topsoil layer, reddish brown, sandy clay, with 1-5% inclusions of medium pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm. | 0-31 cm |
| 3002 | Loosely compacted layer, reddish brown sandy clay. 10% inclusions of rounded and subrounded medium pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm. | 31-38 cm |
| 3003 | Moderately compacted subsoil layer, reddish brown, silty clayey sand. | 38-50 cm |
| | | |
| Trench 4 | | |
| 4001 | Loosely compacted topsoil layer, reddish brown sandy clay, with charcoal flecks | 0-34 cm |
| 4002 | Moderately compacted subsoil layer, reddish brown, clayey sand. With occasional charcoal inclusions. | 34-40 cm |
| | | |
| Trench 5 | | |
| 5001 | Moderately compact topsoil layer, greyish brown sandy clay, with 1-5% inclusions of medium pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm. | 0-34 cm |
| 5002 | Moderately compacted subsoil layer, yellowish brown, clayey sandy with 1-5% inclusions of medium pebbles, 6 mm – 20 mm, possible plough marks. | 35-38 cm |
| 5003 | Moderately compacted subsoil layer of yellowish grey, clayey sand, with 1-5% inclusions of medium pebbles. | 38-44 cm |
| 5004 | Loosely compacted subsoil layer of yellowish grey clayey sand, with 1-5% inclusions of cobbles, 60 – 200 mm. | 45-55 cm |
| 5005 | Loosely compacted subsoil layer of yellowish grey sand. | 55-60 cm |
| | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Trench 6 | | |
| 6001 | Compacted topsoil layer of dark brownish yellow clayey silt, with charcoal flecks. | 0-40 cm |
| 6002 | Loosely compacted dark yellow sand layer. | 40-57 cm |
| | | |
| Trench 7 | | |
| 7000 | Loosely compacted topsoil layer of dark brown, silty sand, with 5 – 10% inclusion of coarse pebbles, 20 mm – 60 mm. | 0-35 cm |
| 7002 | Fill of root hole. Loosely compacted dark brown, silty sand, with 5 – 10% inclusion of coarse pebbles, 20 mm – 60 mm. | 35–40 cm |
| 7003 | Cut of root hole. Irregular shape, rounded corners, NE/SW orientation. Fill is 7002. | 35–40 cm |
| 7001 | Loosely compacted topsoil layer of dark brown, silty sand, with 5 – 10% inclusion of coarse pebbles, 20 mm – 60 mm. | 35-55 cm |

Appendix 2: Finds Summary

| Trench | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 2 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Context | 1001 | | 1002 | | 2001 | | 2002 | |
| | count | weight | count | weight | count | weight | count | weight |
| Refined earthenware | 5 | 6.25 | | | | | 3 | 0.69 |
| Porcelain/bone china | | | 1 | 0.18 | 1 | 3.97 | 4 | 0.26 |
| Red ware | 2 | 10.36 | | | 1 | 6.01 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Clay pipes | 1 | 1.75 | | | | | | |
| Glass | 1 | 0.28 | | | 1 | 0.4 | 2 | 0.19 |
| Brick | 4 | 10.99 | | | 2 | 133.5 | | |
| Flint | 1 | 11.33 | | | | | | |
| Burnt Flint | | | 1 | 0.23 | | | | |
| Plastic | | | | | | | 1 | 0.00 |
| Bone | | | | | | | | |
| Metal | 1 | 13.32 | | | | | | |
| Fire cracked rock | 2 | 24.02 | 2 | 25 | | | 12 | 0.34 |
| Slag | | | 1 | 5 | | | | |
| Saggar | 1 | 30 | | | | | | |
| Waster | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| total | **19** | **109.3** | **5** | **30.41** | **5** | **143.88** | **23** | **1.51** |

Appendix 2 cont.

| Trench | 3 | | 3 | | 4 | | 4 | | 5 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Context | 3001 | | 3002 | | 4001 | | 4002 | | 5001 | |
| | 3 | weight | count | weight | count | weight | count | weight | count | weight |
| Refined earthenware | | | 3 | 9.43 | | | 2 | 1.06 | 4 | 4.93 |
| Porcelain/bone china | 1 | 1.14 | 2 | 4.66 | 5 | 4.85 | 8 | 12.93 | 1 | 2.52 |
| Red wares | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 5.72 | 1 | 4.6 | 4 | 18.66 | 1 | 15.4 |
| Clay pipes | 2 | 4.84 | | | | | | | 1 | 0.61 |
| Glass | | | 2 | 3.41 | 1 | 3.88 | 4 | 4.13 | 1 | 9.3 |
| Brick | | | 4 | 139.66 | 3 | 2.32 | 17 | 121.89 | 8 | 181.44 |
| Flint | 1 | 2.66 | | | | | | | | |
| Burnt Flint | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plastic | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bone | | | | | | | | | | |
| Metal | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fire cracked rock | | | | | | | | | 5 | 254.7 |
| Slag | | | | | | | | | | |
| Saggar | | | | | | | 1 | 74.66 | | |
| Waster | | | | | | | | | | |
| Buff slipware | | | | | | | | | 1 | 11.75 |
| total | **5** | **9.24** | **12** | **162.88** | **10** | **15.65** | **36** | **233.33** | **22** | **480.65** |

2 cont.

| Trench | 6 | | 6 | | 7 | | 7 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Context | 6001 | | 6002 | | 7001 | | 7002 | |
| | count | weight | count | weight | count | weight | count | weight |
| Refined earthenware | 4 | 3.22 | 13 | 13.62 | 6 | 22.69 | 3 | 3.39 |
| Porcelain/bone china | 1 | 0.77 | 2 | 9.3 | 4 | 4.03 | | |
| Red wares | | | 7 | 30.9 | 5 | 11.76 | 1 | 1.4 |
| Clay pipes | | | | | 2 | 3.53 | | |
| Glass | 1 | 1.11 | 5 | 81.8 | 2 | 6.24 | | |
| Brick | 2 | 76.2 | 6 | 69.62 | 4 | 22.01 | 3 | 63.42 |
| Flint | 1 | 30.73 | 1 | 12.7 | | | | |
| Burnt Flint | | | | | | | | |
| Plastic | | | 1 | 0.13 | 1 | 0.04 | 1 | 0.62 |
| Bone | | | | | | | | |
| Metal | | | | | | | 1 | 0.07 |
| Fire cracked rock | | | | | | | | |
| Slag | | | 1 | 100 | | | | |
| Saggar | | | | | | | | |
| total | **9** | **112.03** | **36** | **318.07** | **24** | **70.3** | **9** | **68.9** |

Appendix 3. Oldbury Farm 2016 Flint identification, Rob Hedge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | RECORD | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Site Info | SITE CODE | OY16 | OY16 | OY16 | OY16 | OY16 | OY16 | OY16 |
| | Block | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | Sweep | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | Position | Group Helen #2; RS | Joy 2'; 3; Helen's Group | P3; TO'D; 3 Tara; Group 1 Helen; | NHC; '1. 2. Jo 1. cola; 'No1'; 'Sue's Group' | Jo | 2Sweep2'; 'Group Helen' | No 2'; 'Jo'; 'Helen 1' |
| | Date | 15/03/16 | 08/03/16 | 08/03/16 | 08/03/16 | 15/03/16 | 15/03/16 | 08/03/16 |
| | Tool type | BIFACE: HANDAXE | SCRAPER | | NOTCH | | END SCRAPER | |
| Type | Debitage type | | Flake fragment | Flake | Flake | Broken flake | Flake fragment | Flake |
| | Other | | | | | | | |
| | Percussion | | SOFT | | | SOFT | | |
| | Qty | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Metrics | Weight | 15.9 | 3.4 | 0.9 | 9 | 5.8 | 4.7 | 3.2 |
| | Length | 49.4 | 19.2 | 15 | 32.4 | 25.8 | 34.9 | 40.7 |
| | Max width / diameter | 28.6 | 27 | 12.6 | 22.9 | 22.3 | 16.8 | 16 |
| | Max thickness | 11 | 6.9 | 4.7 | 10.5 | 9.7 | 6.9 | 5.9 |
| | Raw mat | Flint, opaque mottled orange/blue-brown | Flint, translucent dark grey | Flint, opaque light grey | Flint, opaque mottled mid grey | Flint, light grey with ochreous patination | Flint, light grey with ochreous patination | Flint, opaque mottled orange-brown |
| Attributes | Cortex? | | | | | | 25% dorsal cortex along crest, ?river cobble | 10% |
| | Retouch? | | Abrupt, extending along long distal margin | | Along both lateral margins, into notch at R | | abrupt, distal end and along length of left lateral margin | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Edge-damage? | Small amount along one lat margin | | | | Distal break | | |
| | Burnt? | | | | | | | |
| | PERIOD | (?Late) Middle Palaeolithic | ?early Neolithic | Prehistoric | Neolithic/Bronze Age | Palaeolithic to Neolithic | Palaeolithic to Mesolithic | ?Mesolithic |
| **Description** | Comments | Unusual very small biface, in good and fresh condition with little edge damage | End scraper on distal portion of squat broken flake | Small flake with hinge-termination | Notch on thick flake | Nos 5 & 6 same raw material, patinated, prob Pal/Meso though Neolithic date possible | | Flake early in reduction sequence from opposed platform core - prob Mesolithic. |
| | | | | | | | | |

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